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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/759,580

01/16/2004

Jude J. Katsch

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08/09/2006

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EXAMINER

ELAMIN, ABDELMONIEM I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2116

DATE MAILED: 08/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/759,580	Applicant(s) KATSCH, JUDE J.	
	Examiner Abdelmoniem Elamin	Art Unit 2116	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beard et al, US. Pat. No. 5,991,830 (cited by Applicant) in view of Newell, Jr. et al, US. Pat. No. 6,772,232.

3. Claims 1, 6, Beard teaches A method of initializing devices connected to a Communication bus by a host [abstract], comprising:

(a) determining which devices, if any, are branded devices and which devices, if any, are unbranded devices by the host; if there are no branded devices [col. 10, lines 38-47];

(b) sending a first focus command by the host to a first one of the devices connected to the communication bus as a focused device [READ DEVICE TYPE command, col. 8, lines 3739, col. 11, line 4-9];

(c) in response to a probe command sent by the host to the focused device, returning configuration information by the focused device [col. 8, lines 39-45, col. 11, lines 9-14]; and

Beard fails to teach branding the focused device by the host based upon the confirmation information.

Newell teaches branding [assigning address, the method of Figs 3a and 3b] to a focused device [e.g., device 15 of Fig. 1] by the host [processor 12 of Fig. 1] based upon the confirmation information [steps 50-54].

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Beard to include branding the focused device by the host based upon the confirmation information, because it enables devices populating a system to calculate addresses of neighboring devices without having to store such addresses [*see Newell col.1, lines 52-63*].

4. Claims 2, 7, 10, Beard teaches (e) sending a blur command by the host to the branded device [col. 11, *lines 44-47*]; (f) converting the blur command to second focus command by the branded device [*Q-PORT device informs the host of the existence of a second device. The host issues a READ DEVICE TYPE command, see the discussion started at col. Line 55*]; (g) passing the second focus command to a second one of the devices connected to the communication bus as the focused device by the first branded device [col. 12, *lines 1-12*]; (h) in response to a second probe command sent by the host to the focused device, returning configuration information by the focused device [col. 12, *lines 13-35*]; and (i) branding the focused device by the host based upon the configuration information [col. 12, *lines 13-35*].

5. Claim 3, Beard teaches (j) repeating (e)-(i) for the remainder of the devices connected to the communication bus [*see Fig. 2*].

6. Claims 4, 8, Beard teaches setting a branded flag; and assigning a brand ID [col. 9, *lines 43-52*].

7. Claims 5, 9, Beard teaches setting up a driver software corresponding to the branded device [*see device drivers 119 and 120 of fig. 1 and related disclosure*].

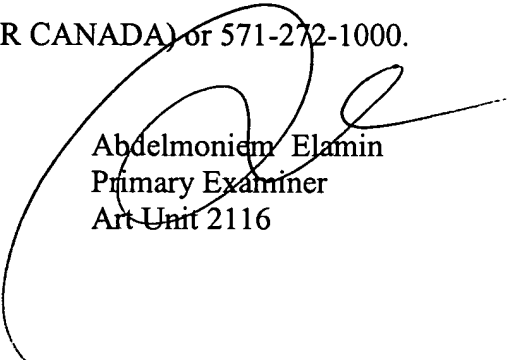
Conclusion

Art Unit: 2116

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdelmoniem Elamin whose telephone number is 571-2727-3674. The examiner can normally be reached on MON - THUR 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on 571-272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Abdelmoniem Elamin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2116

August 2, 2006